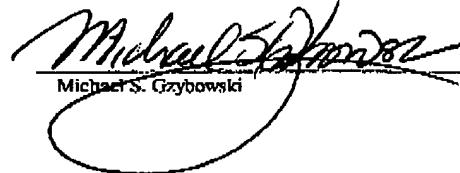


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7-24-03

Appl. No. 09/976,312
Arndt. Dated July 23, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 23, 2003

PATENT APPLICATIONIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<i>Group</i>	3761	RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION
<i>Art Unit:</i>		
<i>Attorney</i>	121027-076 (new)	EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUESTED
<i>Docket No.:</i>		
<i>Applicant:</i>	Yoshinori KUMASAKA et al.	<u>Certified Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)</u>
<i>Invention:</i>		
ELASTICALLY STRETCHABLE		
DISPOSABLE PANTS		
<i>Serial No.:</i>	09/976,312	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile on the date indicated below.
<i>Filed:</i>		
October 11, 2001		
<i>Examiner:</i>	Catharine Anderson	on <u>July 23, 2003</u>


Michael S. GzybowskiPRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed April 23, 2003 in connection with the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.